

# FOES IN GLADSTONE'S WAY. THE DETERMINED UNIONISTS. THEY REJECT OFFERS OF COMPROMISE FROM THE MINISTERS. A BITTER AND EXCITING STRUGGLE PROBABLE OVER THE CLOSING STAGES OF THE HOME RULE BILL—AN ATTEMPT TO REDUCE THE PRIME MINISTER'S SALARY— INTEREST IN THE NAVAL —THE COAL STRIKE NOT SETTLED.

London, Aug. 5.—Within the last few days the Government organs have been making the announcement, seemingly based upon official authorization, that Parliament will take a recess within six weeks and will resume the session at the end of October. These announcements, however, have no value beyond intimating the desire of the Government supporters that before the dissolution the Ministers shall carry some of the leading measures decided upon at the Liberal conference held last year at Newcastle. They believe that at least two of the measures obtained in the Newcastle programme should be passed before the dissolution. These are the Parish Councils bill and the Employers' Liability bill. They hold that for the Liberal party to present itself to the country on the single achievement of the Home Rule bill would be to expose it to almost inevitable defeat. So, if the Opposition would agree to a brief adjournment of the House, the Government could upon the resumption of the session take up the measures concerning Great Britain. This, however, is exactly the programme which the leaders of the Opposition decline to assist in carrying out. During the last week constant communications have been exchanged between the Government and the Unionist whips, having in view an arrangement to shorten the discussion of the vote on Supply and the report stage of the Home Rule bill, so as to enable the Government to turn its attention to British legislation. Though the Unionists have been weary by the long fight they have made against the Home Rule bill at every stage of its progress, they refuse to listen to the Government's overtures and will continue the struggle. They decline to accept any sort of compromise, and are prepared to exhaust every form of practice known to the House to check the work of the Government. The Cabinet will hold a meeting on Tuesday at which the course of the Government will be decided upon.

The third stage of the Home Rule bill will open on Monday, and must consume the time of the House for at least three weeks, even though the Government should use every possible means of closure. The debate will cover forty-two new clauses and schedules, besides ten pages of amendments, most of which will again raise the issues that were settled in Committee of the Whole. One of the most important of the new proposals is to be made by Mr. Balfour, the Conservative leader in the House, who will move an amendment to the effect that the Irish members retained in the Imperial Parliament shall have the power to vote only on motions amending the Home Rule bill.

After the discussion, which, as above stated, will occupy three weeks at the least, and the report, the third reading of the bill will be taken up. Then the House will resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on Supply. The Opposition can wrangle interminably over the questions that will come up, unless the Government risks the danger of establishing a precedent, and applies the closure. This method of shutting off debate has never been applied in Committee on Supply, and the Government is, it is said, hesitant about making the precedent.

The closing period is likely to witness scenes of the most intense excitement. The Unionists might consent to grant the estimate if the Government would agree to prorogue Parliament in September to December; but, as a prerogative of the House, the introduction of every Government bill when Parliament resumes, whereas an adjournment enables the House to take up bills at the stage they have achieved, Mr. Gladstone will decline to prorogue Parliament.

During the recent discussion of the estimates Henry Chaplin, who was President of the Board of Agriculture in Lord Salisbury's Administration, attempted to raise the long-deferred debate on the question of bimetalism by moving a reduction of the salary drawn by the Prime Minister. Every bimetalist member of the House was on the alert, primed to attack the Government for suspending the free coinage of silver in India, but their hopes of ventilating their views and opinions were quenched by the Chairman, who ruled that the motion was out of order. This decision was highly gratifying to the Ministers' supporters, who were anxious to avoid a long discussion of the question which the bimetalists are anxious to raise.

The Government's supporters are also anxious to avoid as long as possible an official exposure of the failure of the Indian currency policy. A feature of the situation is the continued success of the efforts of the Indian Council to sell their drafts on India. On Wednesday bills amounting to forty lacs of rupees were offered without an allotment being made. The only tender was for ten lacs at 18, 33-1/2, a rupee. The tender was refused. For five consecutive weeks the Indian Council has failed to obtain tenders for its bills, being unwilling to make allotments except at 18, 33, or the smallest fraction under that price. Currency experts differ in opinion as to whether the Council can maintain the price of its drafts at a fixed minimum, and as to the result of what such an attempt will be upon the currency struggle generally.

William H. Grenfell, who has heretofore supported Mr. Gladstone's political and financial policies, has withdrawn from the Liberal party, solely, it is said, because of the Government's action in regard to the Indian currency question. This fact, together with the speech made at the Mansion House meeting on Thursday by Mr. Balfour, when the principal bankers of London and other business men assembled to consider the situation, has again aroused the country's interest in the financial question. Though Mr. Balfour in his speech declined to commit the Conservative party to bimetalism, it is an accepted fact that that party is tending to the adoption of a double standard as a plank in the Conservative platform.

S. Lana Horton, the American expert, who attended the Mansion House meeting, was subsequently asked for his opinion in regard to the outlook for the double standard. He said he hoped that the American people would realize that international silver was not yet dead. If the names of those who were present at the Mansion House meeting were communicated to Washington it would be seen how all the great business interests had been represented, and the press boycott against silver would break down.

For the sentiments expressed by Mr. Balfour the newspapers simply scold him. The editorial outpourings on the subject prove nothing beyond the mental feebleness of the enemy. Mr. Horton added that it was a pity that the new leverage obtained could hardly be well utilized.

Kylie or Britannia can beat the Navaho by at least five miles over a fifty-mile course. Her want of stiffness, compared with that possessed by English yachts, renders her present performance uncertain. She will be a wonder in light breezes. We know nothing as to the relative merits of the Navaho compared with the Jubilee, or the Navaho compared with the Valkyrie. There is not one among them that the Valkyrie could beat. It is a strong feeling here that the Navaho will be sailing away on a light breeze in New-York Bay, and that she might just as well stay at home.

It has been reported that the great strike of coal miners, which began on July 25, has not been settled. These reports, however, are not true. The strike of coal is rising in consequence of the strike, and this fact is causing a suspension of work in many factories in Lancashire and Yorkshire. It is estimated that fully 500,000 hands who depend on mining, shipping and manufacturing for their living have been thrown out of work through the strike.

Lord Rosebery, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will start tonight for Hamburg, where he will make a three weeks' stay. Mr. Decker, the newly appointed French Ambassador to Great Britain, will present his credentials to the Queen at Osborne House next week. According to diplomatic usage Lord Rosebery should accompany him when he visits the Queen, but he will not be able to do so. From the fact that Lord Rosebery will be absent from the Queen's residence, it is argued that the understanding between Great Britain and France is not perfect.

Buckingham Palace is about to be closed for six months. The sanitation of the Palace is imperfect. All the household servants, including the head housekeeper, will be put on board wages.

## RUSSIA ON THE DEFENSIVE

SAID TO HAVE BEEN FORCED INTO THE TARIFF WAR WITH GERMANY.

STRENGTHENED BY BOTH SIDES ABATING, AND THE STRUGGLE LIKELY TO END SOON—PROGRAMME OF THE SOCIALIST CONGRESS—A REVOLUTION IN NORWAY EXPECTED.

Berlin, Aug. 5.—Though the Russo-German tariff war has been in active operation only five days, there are already signs of abatement of the spirit of hostility on both sides. Several St. Petersburg newspapers, inspired by the Russian Foreign Office, attack the policy of aggression upon German commerce initiated by M. Witte, the Russian Finance Minister, without the full sanction of the Imperial Council, though with the knowledge of some of the Czar's advisers. M. Witte is accused of underestimating Germany's strength in facing the customs war, while open regret is expressed that it was ever begun. The Moscow "Gazette" goes further, and declares that the action of the Russian Government was taken simply in self-defence. Germany, argues the "Gazette," began the attack by introducing a differential tariff, and Russia, after long suffering delay, replied in defence of her own interests by merely imposing the maximum tariff upon German imports. The "Gazette" overlooks the fact that the dues on German ships entering Russian ports are raised to such an enormous figure as to be almost equivalent to a blockade. The tone of the official articles, however, breathes peace. They conclude by asserting that Russia does not aim now, as formerly, at a harmonious settlement of international questions.

Another indication that the customs war will soon terminate is the fact that a mutual agreement has been entered into not to engage in a grain freight war, which was dreaded by commercial men as being certain to exacerbate every one concerned in international trade. The general opinion of the business world here is that a steady resolution not to give in until Russia shows a willingness to reduce her tariff will be the speediest road to an agreement.

The "North German Gazette," commenting upon Russia's abrupt change of front from negotiating a treaty to hostile action dangerous to Russian interests, publishes tables showing the former and the existing Russian duties, and comparing them with the German tariff on Russian goods. The figures prove that the German tariff amounts on an average to only 25 per cent of the value of the goods imported, and in some instances to 50 per cent; whereas the Russian duties before the war began averaged 100 per cent, and are now raised to an impracticable height. This comparison finally settles the Russian assertion that Germany initiated the conflict by raising her tariff and compelling Russia to raise hers.

Reports that the negotiations for an Austro-Russian treaty of commerce are making active progress toward an agreement do not at all disturb official circles here. Austria has a right to arrange whatever commercial relations she chooses. The trade between Russia and Austria-Hungary is almost nothing when compared with the international trade between Russia and Germany. The Triple Alliance treaties do not touch upon commercial questions, Germany can do without Russian grain, and the sum of official opinion is that the Russo-Austrian treaty, if it is ever concluded, will not impede the settlement of the Russo-German tariff troubles in a manner satisfactory to Germany. It is hoped that when the Reichstag reassembles the Government will be able to announce that Russia has recovered her senses. Rumors are current on the Bourse that Russia is trying to raise from Paris bankers a loan of 15,000,000 rubles at 5 per cent.

The Socialist Congress which opens at Zurich to-morrow will be largely composed of German and Austrian delegates. Practically it is a meeting of members of the extreme wing of the German Socialists. The programme of the Congress includes an international agreement for the celebration of the 1st of May as Labor Day, concerted political action on the part of the Socialists, the position of the Socialists in case of a European war, international trade organizations, etc.

The Duke of Saxo-Coburg-Gotha, it is officially announced, is recovering from his apoplectic attack of Tuesday. A private report says that his left side is practically paralyzed and that his condition is critical.

Emperor William is timed to arrive at the island of Heligoland Monday evening. During his stay of a week at the island he will witness a part of the evolution of the North Sea squadron. The Russian "Grashevin" asserts that the Government has decided to refuse permission to the Finns to subscribe for the construction of a Finnish-Norwegian railway, as the Foreign Office at St. Petersburg expects a revolution in Norway and the declaration of a republic. The way and the declaration of a republic are purchasing and importing arms largely, and are preparing for an insurrection.

The family of Theodore Runyon, the American Minister to Germany, will go to Helsingfors, on the Baltic, on Monday, and will stay there for the time being. The arrivals of Americans several weeks. Among the arrivals are the Misses Marianna and Elise Schold, of St. Louis; L. Engel, of San Francisco; John Tucker and daughter, of New-York, and May Fowler, of Chicago.

M. NORTON CONFESSES TO FORGERY.

Paris, Aug. 5.—The trial opened here to-day of M. Ducret, Editor of the "Coecarde," at St. Nectaire. The latter is charged with having forged the documents alleged to have been stolen from the British Embassy, which are reported to show that certain Frenchmen were guilty of treason. M. Ducret is charged with complicity in the forgeries. M. Clemenceau, whose name appeared in the documents as one of the men engaged in a reasonable conspiracy against France, from which Great Britain was to derive benefit, claims damages for the libellous statements the prosecution is based. The papers upon which a place on the staff of the "Petit Journal" had been offered to him if the documents were forgeries and were prepared at the house of M. Ducret.

## CAUSING MUCH COMMENT.

DR. EDSON'S SURPRISING CONNECTION WITH A FILTER COMPANY.

HE SAYS IT IS A PURELY BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS OFFICE—HEALTH BOARD PRIC.

It will cause general surprise that a member of the Board of Health of this city is an officer of a company controlling a patented device for purifying the city's water supply. Such a fact would have been too astounding for belief in the days when the Health Board was non-partisan and was regarded as the most respectable branch of the city government. Men like Professor Charles F. Chandler and Dr. Edward G. Janeway never would have become interested in a patent on the merits of which they might have to pass as Health Commissioners. It was their invariable rule also not to lend the countenance of the Health Board to any patented device, however worthy of commendation the device might have been. In these days, however, the Health Board is a part of the Tammany machine, and the public need not be amazed if the spirit of indifference to the proprieties which pervades the larger organization extends also to the branch office in Mott-st.

There have been many complaints by citizens lately because the Croton water has had a muddy appearance, a disagreeable taste and an offensive smell. The Commissioner of Public Works and the Health Commissioners have declared that the trouble was caused by "dead ends" in the water-pipes, but analyses of the water continue to show the presence of nitrates, although there has been a systematic blowing-off of hydrants in the city to increase the circulation of the water. Now comes forward the Rapid Safety Filter Company, with offices at No. 133 Broadway, offering to make the water in any house absolutely pure "for the model" for a sum of \$120 a month. On the letter-heads of the company is displayed the name of Dr. Cyrus Edson, the Health Commissioner of this city, as the vice-president of the company. Other officers of the company are stated to be Frank W. Sanger, president, and Myron H. Oppenheim, secretary. A picture of an ornamental ice-box, supposed to contain the company's filter, also adorns the letter-heads, and under the picture is printed the term as follows:

LEASED ONLY.  
Terms \$10 per month.

A letter which has been sent by the company "to the press and medical profession," contains this invitation: "You are cordially invited to attend the formal opening of the showrooms of the Rapid Safety Filter Company of New-York on the evening of the 7th inst., at 8 o'clock, to inspect a perfect system of filtration, which will with the Croton water be rendered absolutely pure."

Dr. Cyrus Edson, when asked about his connection with the company, said: "I recently purchased 100 shares of the company's stock, paying as much for them as any person would have to pay, because I thought it would be a good investment. I was made the vice-president of the company. I suppose, not because I was a Health Commissioner, but because I have devoted much of my time for years to the study of hygiene, and have become well known to the public as a writer on that subject. It is not likely that the Health Board will have to pass upon the merits of the company's filter, and certainly I would resign either my place in the company or my office as a Health Commissioner rather than be placed in a position where I might be suspected of using my official position to promote the interests of the company. If I cannot engage in any legitimate business enterprise apart from my duties as a Commissioner, I would be well to resign my office at once, for the salary is not large. 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